

**405 East 19th Avenue**  
**Post Falls, Idaho 83854**

January 10, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

After three long years the Department of Justice has finally concluded its antitrust suit against Microsoft. A charge, I believe, that was wrong in the first place. I am the computer expert in our family and I use Microsoft, but I didn't always. I started out with AOL, and then switched to Microsoft. I had Windows '95, '98, and now '2000. At no time was I coerced to use Microsoft. I had complete freedom of choice; therefore, I do not understand the charges against Microsoft for monopolizing the market.

I do not know why a suit was brought against a company for providing a good product. Would we be suing Henry Ford for dominating the auto industry, or Macintosh for being the best in computer graphics programs? I think there should be recognition of what Microsoft has accomplished. Microsoft has provided enormous technical expertise to this country, not to mention, income. Bill Gates invented the computer revolution and made the global village possible. Globalization is heralded, yet no one seems to recognize just how and why this happened. Think back before Microsoft.

The settlement between the Department of Justice and Microsoft is now done. It was hard. Even the judge lost patience, ordering round-the-clock negotiations to bring about closure. Perhaps, she knew when enough is enough. Which is what I am saying. It is time to move on. Give your support to this agreement.

Sincerely,



Cheri Mitton

cc: Senator Larry Craig